



March 13, 2020

Marines, Sailors, and Families of Marine Corps Installation West,

I would like to take this opportunity to address the current health concern regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

It is extremely important that we all make a personal effort to comply with recommended hygiene protocols. We must continue to demonstrate compassion for those affected and with our fellow citizens to stem the flow of infectious transmission. Any measures to increase our public health conditions will be covered by official public notices. We will ensure you receive the most up-to-date information so that we can move forward together through this situation. Information regarding public health will continue to be delivered through our command website [www.pendleton.marines.mil](http://www.pendleton.marines.mil) and our social media outlets Facebook and Twitter @MCIWPendletonCA.

Some specific recommended hygiene protocols include: washing hands often with soap and water for more than 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer; daily cleaning of contact surfaces in homes, barracks, workspaces, schools and public venues; and covering the mouth when coughing or sneezing. It is also recommended that we keep more than six feet of distance from other people where possible and avoid personal contact such as shaking hands.

If there is a need for medical advice please continue to use the Tricare nurse advice line (800-874-2273), your primary care physician, or the Naval Hospital for acute symptoms associated with the flu. If you intend to seek care at a medical facility, please call ahead and advise medical personnel of your symptoms so they are prepared for your arrival.

Individuals with flu like symptoms are requested to self-quarantine during the testing period of 1-4 days after examination by a competent medical authority. Should the test be positive, appropriate measures will be enacted to protect the public, treat the infected, and prevent the spread of the infection.

First responders, medical and maintenance personnel may wear protective equipment to protect our force and prevent the spread of infection. These precautionary actions are in place to protect both you and them.

Public gatherings of groups larger than two hundred fifty personnel are to be limited to mission essential activities only. Personnel should be prepared to telework for those authorized. We will continue the mission and personnel are expected to come to work until further notice.

As we navigate this situation together, we will utilize the information and recommendations provided by the experts at the Center for Disease Control and Navy Medicine while taking measures to protect our service members and families.

Again, I want to thank you for your support and patience.

Semper Fidelis,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

DAN CONLEY

Brigadier General, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding General  
Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base  
Camp Pendleton